

ECCLESIASTICAL DILAPIDATIONS.—A writer in the *Carlisle Journal* draws attention to the great expense often entailed on clergymen by the size of the glebe house, and the repairs consequently required. Every unnecessary building entails a burthen upon the succeeding clergyman. "Very great disputes," he continues, "often arise about dilapidations. I will give you an instance of a case in Cumberland which took place not many years ago. A clergyman came upon his predecessor for dilapidations; valuers were employed from different parts to ascertain the amount of damages. One valuer's estimate amounted to 147*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, the second to 147*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, the third to 155*l.*—none of which values proved satisfactory. The case came before a jury, whose verdict was, I believe, 50*l.*! A case of dilapidation came before the late Judge Bayley. The mode of valuing was stated—the first plan was, including papering, whitewashing, and painting, 399*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*; the second, exclusive of the above three articles, was 310*l.*; the third, similar to an outgoing tenant, was 75*l.* 11*s.* His lordship said that none of the rules were precisely correct, but the middle one seemed nearest the truth. He said that papering, whitewashing, and painting, except for preserving the wood from the external air, were luxuries, not properly dilapidations."

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—On Tuesday, May 15, 1849, the president in the chair. The discussion on Mr. Hawkshaw's paper, "On a longitudinal continuous bearing permanent way," was continued throughout the evening, to the exclusion of every other subject. Some interesting observations were made on the actual destruction of the cast-iron chairs and double-headed rails, and the advantages that would result from the more general substitution of continuous longitudinal timber bearings for the present transverse sleepers and cast-iron chairs. The system of inserting a piece of hard wood between the rail and the main timber, as on the Great Western Railway, was much approved, as was also the plan of side transoms halved into the main timbers, as it enabled a better system of drainage to be employed than had been usual with that kind of permanent way. The general opinion seemed to be in favour of the longitudinal bearing.

SCHOOL OF DESIGN.—The following has been sent by Mr. Milner Gibson, as chairman of the committee, to several eminent manufacturers. A request for "a general return, applicable to all classes of manufacturers (addressed to certain manufacturers in each class), to be filled up according to the peculiarities of each class of manufacture. A return of the numbers of designers, drawers of patterns, putters on, modellers, chasers, and other artisans engaged in the production of ornamental designs, requiring artistic ability, at present employed by you; distinguishing them into two classes:—Class I. Numbers of those who have not attended any School of Design; Class II. Numbers of those who have attended any School of Design; with the following details, so far as applicable to Class II. only:—Designer's, &c. name; age; whether designer, &c. or not before he attended any School of Design; name of school he has attended; length of time he has attended the school; how long employed by your firm." The results will show to a certain extent how far the school is practically at work.

A NOVEL EXPORTATION.—There is a story current that some short time since a whole army of "Lord Broughams," executed in lead, and of colossal proportions, disembarked in the United States, and were drawn up on a public quay in two lines, resembling an avenue of Egyptian statues. The Custom-house officers were lost in wonder at the sight of so many giants turning up their noses at Brother Jonathan, and inquired what the monster importation meant. "Statues of Lord Brougham," replied the skipper; "one for every city in the union; being the gift of his lordship's English admirers to the American Republic." Lead, as such, is subject to a heavy import duty, but "works of art" are admitted free. What could the officers of customs do? They did not swallow the skipper's story, but they could not detain his statues; and in a short time Lord Brougham was in the melting-pot, and "cast into bullets for the Mexicans."

PROJECTED WORKS.—Advertisements have been issued for tenders,—by June 7th, for the repairs, repewing, &c., of West Ham church, Essex; by June 4th, for the construction and erection of the pipes and fittings connected with the baths and washhouses in Trippett-street, Kingston-upon-Hull; by date not specified, for the erection of twenty semi-detached villa residences, about three miles from the bridges (Surrey side); by June 1st, for the erection of schools, &c., at Miners and Brymbo, for the trustees of the Wrexham Charities; by 21st instant, for the erection of a vicarage-house, offices, and boundary wall, at St. Neots; by 23rd, for the erection of a detached station for constabulary, near Newbury; by 25th, for the several works required in the erection of a Presbyterian church in Grosvenor-square, Manchester; by 24th, for the erection of a bakehouse and store-rooms, and enlargement of washhouse in Chorlton union workhouse, Hulme; by 26th, for the erection of a warehouse at Salford, of brick or stone; by 21st, for sewerage, paving, &c., at Chorlton-on-Medlock; by 21st, for 800 feet of brick sewer at Counter's Creek sewer, Notting-hill; by 14th June for 2,800 tons of granite, 1,800 tons of flint, &c., at Paddington; and by 26th inst., for the erection of a steam-engine and engine-house at Marshland Fen.

COMPETITION.—Plans and specifications for a church at Bracknell have been advertised for, to be lodged by 28th instant: the usual commission offered for the selected design.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY.—We learn from Winchester, that during the progress of the restoration of the church of Stoke Charity, now in hand, a very curious discovery was made, namely, a sculpture representing a bishop celebrating mass, he holding the host in one hand and the chalice in the other, above whom is a representation of the deity, attended by angels. It was found concealed in a niche in the chancel, which had been bricked up for the probable purpose of concealing the sculpture, which doubtless occupied in Catholic times some other situation in the church. Mr. F. Baigent, of Winchester, has taken a sketch of it, which he has forwarded to the Archaeological Association. Stoke Charity is about seven miles' distance from Winchester, the church is of Norman structure, and contains, in addition to the above, several curious monuments and sepulchral brasses.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—At a meeting on the 4th, the Hon. Richard Neville communicated a memoir on his investigations at a Roman site on Lord Braybrooke's estates, near Billingbear, Berks. The remains of a Roman structure had been first noticed there, at Weycock, in the parish of Waltham, by Camden, and subsequent discoveries are slightly recorded by later antiquaries. The excavations directed by Mr. Neville have laid open the ground plan of the building, which seems to have been an octagonal tower, about 20 yards in diameter. Numerous vestiges of Roman occupation had been found. Mr. Neville gave an account also of a curious discovery of numerous interments, discovered near Waltham, in the course of construction of the Great Western Railway; with a line of shafts resembling wells, such as have been recently described in the neighbourhood of several Roman sites in England,—as at Ewell, Chesterford, &c.

THE ADELPHI THEATRE.—We are glad to see that, prompted by the late occurrence at the Glasgow theatre, the proprietor of the Adelphi Theatre has formed an additional outlet, from both boxes and pit, into Bull Inn-court, Strand. It was greatly needed. We hope the example will be followed. There is some pretty scenery in the new burlesque here, "The Revolt of the Flowers."

DECORATIVE ART.—Miss Wallace, a lady of fortune, has discovered a mode of gilding and colouring the interior of glass tubes, which, when so prepared, form a beading for the decoration of rooms.

CAUTION TO ARTISTS.—Mr. A. F. West, a young artist, died on the 23rd; and after a post mortem examination, a jury returned a verdict, "That the deceased died from the effect of carbonate of lead." It appeared that he was in the habit of drawing his brushes through his lips.

THE AMPHITHEATRE AT ARLES.—A writer in the *Athenaeum* says, the care expended by the city of Arles on the preservation of its monuments—the memorials of its palmy state when it was the Rome of Gaul, as Ausonius calls it—is highly creditable. Its exquisitely proportioned little amphitheatre, a veritable miniature Coliseum, is still under the hands of the masons. Indeed, the only fear seems to be lest the authorities should fall into the fault so common to the French in such matters, and push the indispensable work of preservation too far towards an attempt at restoration. It has been at length thoroughly isolated from the mean surrounding buildings, which well nigh suffocated it; the interior has been well cleared out; and a light iron railing as a defence from wanton injury has been erected around it. Evidently, the good city has not spared cost in the matter.

THE LINCOLNSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY held a meeting in the manor-house rooms, Gainsboro', on Wednesday. Amongst other papers was one by Sir Charles Anderson, Bart., on Lea church, which has been almost rebuilt by Sir Charles himself.

AN ORDER OF MERIT.—I believe it has been already suggested, though not yet acted upon, to establish an order of merit to be conferred on distinguished individuals in this country. That such a mark of distinction would be appreciated, and is wanted, there can be but little doubt, but then let it be an order of merit conferred solely on those who have distinguished themselves by their talent in the arts and sciences, for great learning, and those who are at the head of the several learned institutions. They have such a mark of distinction in Paris, why not in this great country?

A SUBSCRIBER.

TENDERS

Delivered to the Metropolitan Association for Improving the Dwellings of the Industrious Classes, on Friday, May 11, for blocks of dwellings for families, to be erected in Spicer-street, Spitalfields; Mr. William Beck, Architect:—

Hicks	£12,730
Locke and Newham	12,100
Howard and Nixon	11,900
Haynes and Co.	31,950
R. and E. Curtis	11,944
T. Burton	11,844
Grumard	11,465
T. Hall and Son	11,150
J. Barr	11,137
J. Wilson	10,997
Hill	10,905
J. B. Lee and Son	10,841
J. Glenn	10,785
T. and W. Piper	10,700
J. Jay	10,743
T. Crook and Son	10,661
Carter and Ellis	10,373
H. W. Cooper	9,370

For new additional Wandsworth Infirmary: quantities furnished:—

Greenwood	£3,467
Pilbeam	3,337
J. Glenn	2,806
Gammon	2,850
Spink	2,830
Carter and Co.	2,777
Mearns	2,700
Watson	2,611
Wilson	2,570
W. Higgs	2,557
Cooper and Davies	2,500
R. Tombs	2,460
Gates	2,400
Bennet	2,465
R. and C. Curtis	2,484
Brass	2,410
T. Burton	2,391
Nicholson and Son (accepted)	2,100

For new Infirmary, Uxbridge Union: quantities furnished:—

Bilson	£1,340
Reid	1,220
Hardy	1,190
Kingsbury	1,175
Corby	1,155
Vaughan	1,144
J. Glenn	1,140
Cooper	1,133
Chuter	1,125
Holman	1,103
Fapridge	1,100
T. Burton	1,091
W. Higgs	1,047
Morton	1,044
Pilbeam	997
Maynam	991
Taylor (accepted)	973

For the Westley Normal College, Schools, &c., Horse-ferry-road, Westminster: Mr. J. Wilson, Bath, Architect:—

Lawrence and Sons	£21,307
Costar	20,150
Jay	19,910
Howard	19,810
Myers	19,304
Cooper and Davies	18,700
Patrick	18,460
Piper	18,435
Burton	17,960
Curtis	17,944